

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

The following listing, if entered, replaces all prior versions of the claims in the present application.

1. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus comprising:
an application program comprising
 one or more business components, wherein a business component
 comprises one or more fields, wherein
 the fields correspond to records in a database, and the database is
 separate from the application program,
means for selecting for auditing a business component from the one or
 more business components,
means for selecting for auditing one or more selected operations **of a
plurality of operations, wherein
the operations are configured to operate** on the selected business
 component, **and the means for selecting for auditing one or
more selected operations is further configured to exclude one
or more operations of the plurality of operations from
auditing,**
means for creating an audit trail for the application program, and
means for providing the audit trail to the database associated with the
 fields of the business component.
2. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the application program
further comprises:
 means for detecting when the selected operations are performed.
3. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the application program
further comprises:
 means for generating an audit transaction record regarding the business
 component when the selected operations are detected.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the selected operations include at least one of: update, add, copy, and delete.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising means for restricting access to the audit trail by at least one of: an employee identifier, an employment position, and an area of responsibility.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising means for storing the audit transaction record in an external database.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising means for storing the audit transaction record in a file.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the means for providing the audit trail comprising means for importing the audit transaction record stored in the file to the database.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the audit transaction record includes at least one of: an identifier for the entity that accessed the business component, the operation that was performed on the business component, when the operation was performed, and how the value of at least a portion of the business component was changed.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, further comprising means for querying one or more of the audit transaction records.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising means for prompting the user to enter a comment when the selected operations are detected.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the one or more business components further comprise ~~one or more fields~~ **a plurality of fields**, and the apparatus further comprising:

means for selecting a selected field of the ~~one or more~~ plurality of fields to be audited, wherein the means for selecting a selected field is further configured to exclude one or more fields of the plurality of fields from auditing; and

means for generating an audit transaction record when one of the selected operations on the selected field is detected.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising means for restoring the selected field to a previous state.

14. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a processor; and

a memory coupled to the processor and storing

a first set of instructions, executable by the processor, configured to provide a business component, wherein

the business component comprises one or more fields, wherein

the fields correspond to records in a database, and the database is separate from the application program,

a second set of instructions, executable by the processor, configured to provide a user interface, wherein

the user interface is configured to allow selection for auditing of a selected field of the one or more fields and one or more selected operations on the selected field, and is further

configured to allow selection for excluding from auditing one or more selected operations,

a third set of instructions, executable by the processor, configured to detect when the selected operations are performed on the selected field,

a fourth set of instructions, executable by the processor, configured to generate an audit transaction record regarding the selected field when the selected operations are detected, and

a fifth set of instructions, executable by the processor, configured to provide the audit transaction record to the database associated with the fields of the business component.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the selected operations to be audited include at least one of: update, add, copy, and delete.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the second set of instructions are further configured to allow the user to restrict access to an audit trail by at least one of: an employee identifier, an employment position, and an area of responsibility.

17. Canceled.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the memory further stores a sixth set of instructions, executable by the processor, configured to store the audit transaction record in a file.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the memory further stores a seventh set of instructions, executable by the processor, configured to import the audit transaction record stored in the file to the database.

20. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the audit transaction record includes at least one of: an identifier for the entity that accessed the field, the operation that was performed, when the operation was performed, and a previous value of the field, and a current value of the field.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the memory further stores a sixth set of instructions, executable by the processor, configured to allow the user to query one or more of the audit transaction records.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the memory further stores a sixth set of instructions, executable by the processor, configured to allow the user to restore one or more of the selected fields to a previous value.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the memory further stores a sixth set of instructions, executable by the processor, configured to prompt the user to enter a description of the operation when the selected operations are detected.

24. **(Currently Amended)** A method comprising:
auditing an application program wherein said auditing comprises creating an audit trail; and
using the application program to perform audit trail functions comprising
generating a list of business components included in the application program, wherein
a business component of the list of business components comprises
one or more fields, wherein
the fields correspond to records in a database, and the database is separate from the application program,
presenting the list of business components to a user,
allowing the user to select for auditing a selected business component,
presenting a list of operations that can be performed on the selected business component to the user,
allowing the user to select for auditing one or more selected operations for the selected business component,
allowing the user to exclude from auditing one or more selected operations for the selected business component, and
providing the audit trail to the database associated with the fields of the business component.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the list of operations include at least one of: update, add, copy, and delete.

26. (Original) The method of claim 24, further comprising restricting access to the audit trail by at least one of: an employee identifier, an employment position, and an area of responsibility.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising:
detecting when the selected operations are performed on the selected business component; and
generating an audit transaction record when the selected operations are detected.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein said providing the audit trail comprises storing the audit transaction record in the database.

29. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising storing the audit transaction record in a file.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said providing the audit trail comprises importing the audit transaction record stored in the file to a database.

31. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the audit transaction record includes at least one of: an identifier for the entity that accessed the business component, the operation that was performed on the business component, when the operation was performed, and how the value of at least a portion of the business component was changed.

32. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising querying one or more of the audit transaction records.

33. (Original) The method of claim 27, further comprising prompting the user to enter a description of the operation when the selected operations are detected.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the selected business component further comprises one or more fields, and the method further comprising:

selecting a selected field of the one or more fields to be audited; and
generating an audit transaction record when the selected operations on the selected field are detected.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34, further comprising restoring one or more of the selected fields to a previous value.

36. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium comprising:
instructions for implementing the method of claim 24.

37. Canceled.

38. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the application further comprises:

means for selecting ~~selectively activating and deactivating the~~ the audit trail, wherein the audit trail is configured to be selected repetitively;
means for enabling the audit trail, subsequent to selecting the audit trail, wherein the audit trail is configured to be enabled repetitively;
and
means for disabling the audit trail, subsequent to selecting the audit trail, wherein the audit trail is configured to be disabled repetitively.

39. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein
the business component comprises a table which includes information for an item, person, or other entity.